

TITLE ONE NEWS



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Important dates and deadlines

Superintendents must upload the completed FY18 District Funding Assurances statement into GMAP by Sept. 30.

Section 1118(c) of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) requires local educational agencies (LEAs) to demonstrate that state and local funding of Title I schools is at least equivalent to the funding provided to non-Title I schools. Comparability calculations must be done annually at the start of every school year. **Comparability Reports are due Nov. 1.** The [Comparability Report Guidance Document](#) can be located on the [Title I, Part A](#) webpage. New coordinators can find out more about completing comparability reports through the new coordinator cadre mentioned below.

Equitable services and carryover

Section 1117(a)(4)(A) of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) changes the method used to allocate Title I funds for equitable services to eligible private school children. The U.S. Department of Education (ED) provides more information on this change in O-1 and O-2 of [“Non-Regulatory Guidance: Fiscal Changes and Equitable Services Requirements Under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 \(ESEA\), as Amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act \(ESSA\).”](#)

In addition to the change in method used to allocate Title I funds for equitable services, ESSA also contains new statutory requirements affecting carryover funds beginning with fiscal year 2017 (FY17). ESSA 1117(a)(4)(B) states that funds allocated to a local education agency (LEA) for equitable services to eligible private school children, “must be obligated in the fiscal year for which the funds are received by the LEA.” Beginning with the funds allocated for equitable services for FY17 (school year 2017-18 (SY17-18)), an LEA should not have carryover for equitable services funds. Please see N-6 and N-7 of USED’s guidance for more details.

ESSA makes no mention of the FY16 Title I funds that will become carryover funds on Oct. 1, however USED has identified three options regarding those carryover funds. The three options apply to an LEA that met the Title I equitable services requirements during SY16-17 and the options only apply to Title I. An LEA that did not meet the requirements during SY16-17 must use the portion of FY16 carryover funds generated for equitable services to provide additional services in SY17-18 to eligible private school children attending the affected private school or schools. The following three options must be discussed during consultation between an LEA and private school officials:

Option 1: An LEA that met equitable services requirements in SY16-17 applies the same equitable share proportion to FY16 carryover funds that it applies to FY17 Title I funds.

Option 2: An LEA that met equitable services requirements in SY16-17 and spent all of the FY16 funds generated for equitable services on equitable services uses its FY16 carryover funds to support Title I activities for public school students only.

Option 3: An LEA that met equitable services requirements in SY16-17 and has FY16 funds for equitable services remaining, makes them available for equitable services in SY17-18. An LEA would use any remaining carryover funds to support Title I activities for public school students.

New coordinator cadre

Title I coordinators with three years or less of experience are invited to participate in the new coordinator cadre beginning in September. Participation in the cadre will include monthly hour-long live webinars to provide support wherever needed. The webinars will be recorded and made available to anyone unable to participate in the live session. The first webinar will take place from 10-11 a.m. ET Sept. 20 and will focus on comparability reports. Coordinators interested in participating should email title1reports@education.ky.gov for more information.

Preventing waste, fraud and abuse through ESSA

ESSA Title IX Section 9203, Preventing Improper Use of Taxpayer Funds, requires all recipients of federal funds to post the [Office of Inspector General's](#) (OIG) fraud hotline (1-800-MISUSED) in a public place. This is so that any individual who observes, detects or suspects improper use of taxpayer funds can easily report the activity. The attached flier contains the fraud hotline as well as all other pertinent information. Flyers should be posted in highly visible locations in all buildings receiving federal funds; the [fraud hotline poster](#) can also be found on the KDE Title I, Part A website.

Field trips funded by Title I

While field trips can be an allowable Title I expense, there are a number of requirements which must be met before a field trip can be approved. Like all purchases made with Title I monies, the cost of a field trip must be reasonable, allocable, necessary, and documented. Determining whether or not a field trip cost is reasonable should be done in comparison to its objective (for example, planning to travel 30 miles or 230 miles to visit a museum).

In order to use Title I funds to pay for a field trip, the trip must be educational in nature and not for social, entertainment, or recreational purposes (such as amusement or water parks) or used as a reward. Title I monies may not be used to pay for overnight trips. Educational trips feature planned instructional activities that involve students in learning experiences that are difficult to duplicate in a classroom situation. These trips provide hands-on activities that encourage students to experiment and ask questions. If another experience of less cost could attain the same results, using Title I monies on the field trip should be reconsidered. Certain aspects of the field trip should not be paid for with Title I funds; student lunches should not be purchased with Title I monies nor should students be given a stipend of spending money (for food, souvenirs, et cetera).

An educational field trip should be designed to help students acquire the knowledge and skills needed to increase academic achievement, and the learning outcomes should reflect this. Field trip documentation should provide clear evidence of how the expense ties back to an instructional objective based on Kentucky's standards. The destination and all associated costs should be documented as well as any objectives to be accomplished. The field trip should appear as a part the teacher's lesson by including activities to prepare for the trip and follow up activities that allow students to summarize, apply and evaluate what they learned.

On the web

The KDE [Title I, Part A](#) webpage has several new resources for you to check out:

- [Title I, Part A Handbook](#)
- [Title I Summer Training Documents](#)
- [Comparability Report Guidance Document](#)

Continuous Improvement Summit registration now open; summit features Mike Rutherford

Please join us for the Kentucky Continuous Improvement Summit on Sept. 18-19 in Lexington, co-hosted by the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) and AdvancED. Learn about upcoming accountability changes as well as the latest instructional tools from keynote speaker Mike Rutherford. Do not miss out on the opportunity to learn from experts and peers to enhance your continuous improvement efforts. [Click here for more information and a link to online registration.](#) Join the journey! #KYCIS2017

GMAP tip

When working on an application in GMAP it is important to verify that the correct application year has been selected on the funding applications page. Applications for 2016, 2017 and 2018 are all accessible in GMAP. Before editing the application, make sure the correct year has been selected.

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